AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR

AND

Literary Gazette.

ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE BOOK PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION.

Conducted under the direction of the Association, by CHARLES R. RODE.

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AND LITERARY GAZETTE,

CONDUCTED BY CHARLES R. RODE,

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Literary Intelligence.

FIRST THINGS IN LITERATURE.—The first literary journal ever published was issued at Paris, on the 30th of May, 1666, by Dennis de Sallo, ecclesiastical counsellor to the Parisian Parliament. Its title is Journal des Savans. This work met with a favorable reception, and was soon imitated throughout Europe. Its author had the gratification of seeing it translated into several languages.

Lord Surrey's translation of the 4th Æneid was the first specimen of English blank verse; Turberville's translations from Ovid the second, and Kit Marlow's Lucan the third.

The first almanac in England was printed in Oxford in 1673. "There were," says Wood, "near thirty thousand of them printed, besides a sheet almanac for twopence, that was printed for that year; and because of the novelty of the said almanac and its title, they were all vended. Its sale was so great that the Society of Booksellers in London bought off the copy for the future, in order to engross the profits in their own hands."

The first daily paper in Paris appeared only a few days prior to the Revolution, and was called the Journal de Paris.

The first journal published in France was the brain-child of a physician named Theophraste Renaudot, and appeared on the 20th of May, 1631, under the title of the Gazette. The far-sighted Richelieu, the man before his age, who was as necessary to the France of that day as Louis Bonaparte to the present, greeted its appearance with pleasure, for he knew that it would act as his unbounded partisan.

The earliest magazine issued in America was entitled "The General Magazine and Monthly Chronicle for the British Plantations in America." It was published in Philadelphia by Benjamin Franklin. The first number appeared in January, 1741. A few successive numbers of the work are owned by the Philadelphia Library Company.

The first English literary production *penned* in America, which has any rank in the general history of literature, is the translation of Ovid's Metamorphoses, by George Sandys, printed in London, 1626.

The first collection ever made of American poetry was in 1793. It was edited by Elihu H. Smith, of Connecticut.

The first American edition of Sternhold & Hopkins's version was published at Cambridge, 1693.

Dr. Watts's Hymns were first published in England, in 1707, and his psalms in 1719. He sent specimens of them to Cotton Mather. These hymns were first published in America by Dr. Franklin in 1741, and the psalms were published the same year in Boston. They did not come into general use till after the Revolution.

James Otis was the first writer of the American Revolution.

The Rev. John Callender was the first historian of Rhode Island.

The first Greek type used in the United States was used in Boston in 1761, in printing an original Greek ode and an original Greek elegy, both by Stephen Sewall, afterwards Professor of Hebrew in Harvard College.—*Boston Transcript.*

ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA.—Of this great work Messrs. Little, Brown & Co., the American publishers, now order from Edinburgh more than a thousand copies for the supply of their subscribers, with a constantly increasing demand. Many of the articles are the production of the most eminent scholars in the various departments of literature and science, and the whole work is carefully revised and altered in the present edition, so as to accommodate it to the advanced intelligence and culture of the present day. Sixteen vols. are now issued, and the work will be completed in twenty-one or twenty-two. Vol. XVII, which is now in press, will contain a Life of Pitt by Macaulay, an article on Paleontology by Prof. Owen, Life of Sir Robert Peel by Goldwin Smith, Physical Geography by Sir John Herschel, Photography by Sir David Brewster, Phrenology by Dr. Laycock, Physiology by Dr. Bennett, etc., etc.

SALE OF SPANISH TRACTS.—Up with bulls and down with books! is a cry that might be heard any hour of the day in Spain, if any one there ever thought of books at all. Printers having gone down before pleaders—and the trade in letters being all save at an end—Spanish works are getting rare and dear. The best are in England or America; and like a picture at the great time, whenever one turns up, it is incontinently put on board the Tagus or Alhambra and shipped to London, where, to the surprise of natives, such old rags as a Castilian would give a cigarillo for bring far more than their weight in gold. On Wednesday, for instance, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson sold a few rare Spanish tracts; amongst them were the following:—Historia muy verdadera de dos Amantes, por Eneas Silvio, 1512, 10*l.*—La Historia del muy valiente y esforcado Cavallero Clamades, 1521, 16*l.*—Tratado de Arnalte y Lucenda, 1522, 11*l.*,—Juan de Flores, Historia de Grisel y

Mirabella, 1524, 14*l.* 5*s.*,—Refranes Glosadas, 1524, 7*l.* 5*s.*—Carcel de Amor, por Diego de Sant-Pedro, 1525, 11*l.* 10*s.* None of these exceeded a few leaves each. They would scarcely have served to light a pipe, and they fetch more pesetos than would buy the best box in the Plaza de Toros for a whole year!—*Athenæum.*

The Court and State Library, at Munich, has published the first volume of a work which is sure to draw the attention of the learned world towards the rich treasures of that library. It is a Catalogue, arranged with scientific exactitude, of the manuscripts in the possession of the Royal Library. The first volume, edited by Dr. Thomas, contains a number of the rarest manuscripts, equally interesting for political history, as for the history of the Church, of civilization, and of literature. The whole Catalogue will embrace nine volumes.—*Idem.*

Sale of Rare Coins.—The Whittall Collection of Greek coins, originally formed by Ismail Pasha, has been disposed of during the past week by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, at prices beyond precedent: the total amounting to 3,110*l.* 6*s.* The cabinet comprised—Sicilian, Thracian, Lycian, Syrian, and African coins; and presented many curious and remarkable specimens in the different divisions of these ancient countries, so rich in classic story. Many of the specimens were of great rarity, or such as seldom occur at sales, which may account for the great competition on the part of the English and foreign numismatists, stimulated by the strenuous exertions of the auctioneers. The following examples may be quoted:—An imperial silver coin of Augustus, with bust of Livia on the reverse, 13*l.*; Macedonia Roman, with head of Diana in the centre of the Macedonian shield, 15*l.* 10*s.*; a silver coin of Alexander the First of Macedon, in case, square on the reverse, 15*l.*; a gold coin of Demetrius Poliorcetes, of fine work, 8*l.* 8*s.*; a silver coin of Perseus, of the usual type, of a high class of Art, 26*l.*; a silver coin of Mithridates the Sixth, king of Pontus (bearing date 223), of fine work, 29*l.*; another specimen of different type, 23*l.* 10*s.*; an electrum coin of Cyzicus, with naked figure having one knee on a fish, 13*l.*; another example, of different type, 15*l.*; a gold coin of Erythræ, with head of Hercules to the left, of beautiful work, 35*l.*; a fine copper medallion of Caracalla, 15*l.*; three remarkable coins of ancient Lycia, 33*l.* 15*s.*; a silver coin of Fegosere, an unknown town in the province of Termilæ, 27*l.*; a silver coin of Mallus, with Minerva seated to the left, 42*l.*; a copper coin of Sebaste and Temenotheræ, on alliance of Valerian and Gallienus, 14*l.*; a silver coin of Antiochus the First, with head of Jupiter on the obverse, 31*l.*; a gold coin of Antiochus the Great, 50*l.*; a silver coin of Tryphon, with diademed portrait, 81*l.*; a silver coin of Marathus, with turreted female head, of fine, bold work in high relief, a very remarkable coin, said to be unique, 130*l.*; a silver Bactrian coin of Kamnascires and Anzane with busts of the king and queen, a very extraordinary example, in wonderful preservation, 101*l.*; another coin of the same, an unpublished variety, 31*l.*; a gold coin of Berenice, wife of Ptolemy the Third, 46*l.*; a gold coin of Arsinoë, wife of Ptolemy the Fourth, of fine work, 105*l.*; a gold coin of Ptolemy the Fifth, Epiphanes, 40*l.*—On the day immediately following the sale of the Whittall Cabinet, a small collection of Roman brass coins, formed by a nobleman, was sold by the same auctioneers at equally high prices. The following may be cited:—A brass coin of Trajan, with the Circus Maximus on the reverse, 42*l.*; another specimen, with Rome standing on the reverse, 13*l.*; a medallion of Hadrian, a fine specimen of high medallion Art, 26*l.*; Pertinax, with fine head on the right, a stolated female standing on the reverse, 23*l.* 10*s.*; an interesting coin of Geta, inscribed—Vict. Britt., 24*l.* 5*s.*; another specimen, female seated with cornucopia and hasta, 23*l.* 10*s.*—total of this small cabinet, 570*l.*—*Idem.*

New Publications

Received at the Office of the AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR.

[In the following List will be found the names of such books only as have been sent to this Journal. The titles of all books as they are issued will be regularly inserted in the proper column.]

E. O. Libby & Co. favor us with several recent publications. "From Poor-House to Pulpit; or, the Triumphs of the late Dr. John Kitto, from Boyhood to Manhood," by William M. Thayer, author of "The Poor Boy and Merchant Prince," etc. "The subject of this volume, at fifteen years of age, was a deaf boy in the Poor-house. We endeavor to show what were the elements of his success, that young readers may learn how to triumph over the obstacles in their pathway." "Fred Freeland; or, the Chain of Circumstances: a Story for Boys and Girls, by Willis Loveyouth," is an interesting volume for families. They also publish "The Queen's Domain, and Other Poems," by William Winter.

Phillips, Sampson & Co. publish "Our Charley and What to Do with Him," by Mrs. H. B. Stowe. The book contains several stories for children, and a number of illustrations.

Rudd & Carleton issue "The Ballad of Babie Bell, and Other Poems," by Thomas Bailey Aldrich.

Lindsay & Blakiston have got out the "Life of Mrs. Virginia Hale Hoffman, late of the Protestant Episcopal Mission to Western Africa," by the Rev. George D. Cummins, D.D., rector of St. Peter's Church, Baltimore, Md.

Gould & Lincoln publish "Salvation by Christ: a Series of Discourses on some of the most important Doctrines of the Gospel," by Francis Wayland. This volume is a modification of the author's "University Sermons," containing six new Discourses never before published.

Charles B. Norton has got out No. 8 of "Norton's Literary Letter, comprising American Papers of Interest upon Numismatics and Medals, and a Catalogue of the largest Collection of rare and valuable Works relative to America ever offered for sale." The "Literary Letter" is beautifully and tastefully got up and contains much of value to literary men, book collectors, etc.

Joseph M. Wilson publishes "A Memorial of the Futtehgurh Mission and her Martyred Missionaries: with some Remarks on the Mutiny in India," by the Rev. J. Johnston Walsh, sole surviving member of the Futtehgurh Mission of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church. "Not only has there been a strong desire expressed by many, of having some commemoration of the lives and deaths of those who fell victims to the ruthless spirit of the mutiny, and surrendered their lives for the testimony of Jesus; but this desire has been so expressed, as to assume the magnitude of a demand for a memorial of some kind. And the author has felt that it was required and needed by the Church, to a right improvement of the painful dispensation of providence, which God, in love as well as in anger, saw fit to inflict."

Derby & Jackson have got out "Notes from Plymouth Pulpit: a Collection of Memorable Passages from the Discourses of Henry Ward Beecher," by Augusta Moore, who says: "The Notes contained in this volume are chiefly from memory. The most of them written during the years 1856–'7—and were committed to paper simply because it was impossible to think of, or to write, anything else with a mind so fully possessed by the memory of the sermons from which they were taken. The writer has tried faithfully to give the true sense, and, as far as memory would assist, the exact expressions of Mr. Beecher. It is not the beauty of Mr. Beecher's expressions, nor the startling and resplendent flashes of his thought that this book will show, so much as his presentation of simple and holy truth, in such guise as never fails to interest and instruct all whose notice is gained. And thousands who cannot be induced to peruse long sermons, will cheerfully read, and undoubtedly remember, the vital truths illustrated and enforced in the following pages. The volume is a testimony to the power with which the mind from whence it sprung influences other minds, and of the *nature* of that influence."

John W. Norton issues "Charity Green; or, the Varieties of Love," by Theodore Hartmann. The author observes: "A good book needs no preface, and a bad book deserves none. Yet, as friends from abroad bring missives of introduction, let me whisper to the reader how I came to write Charity Green. The character is no fiction. Every personage in the volume is sketched from life-reality. Names are veiled, situations disguised and facts of a wide compass compressed into brief. I have used the artist's privilege and humbly sought to follow in the steps of the art's great Master. Much that seems improbable is a transcript of genuine experience in the two hemispheres. My transatlantic friends will recognize in the benefactors of the humble foundling familiar faces under novel names."

Merrihew & Thompson favor us with a copy of "Hints to Craniographers, upon the Importance and Feasibility of Establishing some Uniform System by which the Collection and Promulgation of Craniological Statistics and the Exchange of Duplicate Crania may be Promoted, by J. Aitken Meigs, M.D., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine in the Philadelphia College of Medicine; Corresponding Secretary of the Philadelphia county Medical Society, etc."

New Announcements since our Last Issue.

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List of New Works.

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DEANE.—An Address on the Life and Character of James Deane, M.D. of Greenfield, Mass. By Henry I. Bowditch, M.D. 8vo. pp. 45. [H. D. Mirie & Co.]

DOTEN.—Hesper, the Home-Spirit. By Elizabeth Doten. 18mo. pp. 251. [A. Tompkins.] 75

HOFFMAN.—Life of Mrs. Virginia Hale Hoffman, late of the Protestant Episcopal Mission to Western Africa. By the Rev. George D. Cummins, D.D., rector of St. Peter's Church, Baltimore, M.D. 16mo. pp. 256. [Lindsay & Blakiston.]

ISHERWOOD.—Engineering Precedents for Steam Machinery; embracing the Performances of Steamships, Experiments with Propelling Instruments, Condensers, Boilers, etc., accompanied by Analyses of the same; the whole being original matter, and arranged in the most practical and useful manner for Engineers. By B. F. Isherwood, chief engineer, U. S. Navy. 8vo. [H. Baillière.]

MEIGS.—Hints to Craniographers, upon the Importance and Feasibility of Establishing some Uniform System by which the Collection and Promulgation of Craniological Statistics, and the Exchange of Duplicate Crania may be promoted. By J. Aitken Meigs, M.D., prof. of the Institutes of Medicine in the Philadelphia College of Medicine; Cor. Sec. of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, etc. Paper. 8vo. pp. 8. [Merrihew & Thompson, Philadelphia.]

NEBELIN.—The Great Day of Atonement; or, Meditations and Prayers on the last twenty-four hours of the Sufferings and Death of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Translated by Mrs. Colin Mackenzie from the German of Charlotte Elizabeth Nebelin.

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